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Rep. Terry amends Myanmar vote

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WASHINGTON -- Call it a voting malfunction.

Rep. Lee Terry, R-Neb., doesn't support keeping Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi under house arrest or shooting Buddhist monks in the streets.

But Terry was one of only two congressmen to register a vote against a House resolution this month condemning Myanmar's military junta for its bloody crackdown on pro-democracy activists.

The resolution also called for opposition leader Suu Kyi's unconditional release.

The only other vote against the resolution came from a presidential candidate, Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, a fervent advocate of noninterventionist policies.

Terry said he was fully in favor of the resolution and surprised when his apparent opposition was called to his attention.

He said he pushed the wrong button when casting his vote. "I could have sworn I pushed -- I remember pushing green," he said.

The Omaha congressman filed a correction of his vote this week with the House clerk's office.

House members cast votes by inserting a card and punching a button. Terry said members accidentally hit the wrong one "fairly frequently."

He said that's why it's important for lawmakers to verify that their votes have been recorded correctly, a step he usually takes but neglected in this case.



